

09/900,631

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION****1. Please replace paragraph [00013] as follows:**

In another aspect, the invention features a method for attaining a per-hop behavior for a plurality of classes of packet traffic in a multi-hop network. The per-hop behavior allocates to each class a nominal departure rate and a minimum percentage of available bandwidth. Each class with a non-empty queue that over a time interval is receiving less than the nominal departure rate and less than the minimum percentage of available bandwidth allocated to that class is identified. One of the identified classes is selected according to a predefined criterion for forwarding a packet of the selected class over the network.